

**Amendments to the Claims**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claims 1-18 (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) An optical lens comprising:

- (i) a temporary protective coating at least partially covering a surface of the lens, said protective coating comprising [[an]] a mineral outermost layer that is mechanically alterable through friction and/or contact, with the proviso that said outermost layer is not a metal oxide and/or metal hydroxide outermost layer directly in contact with an underlying layer containing magnesium fluoride; and
- (ii) a peelable film electrostatically adhering to said outermost layer of the temporary protective coating,

~~wherein the temporary protective layer covers the surface of the lens in such an amount that provides sufficient adhesion of the lens to a holding pad during edging of the lens~~

wherein the peelable film at least covers the central part of the surface of the lens.

20. (currently amended) The lens of claim 19, wherein the outermost layer of the temporary protective coating comprises at least one metal fluoride, metal oxide, or metal hydroxide, ~~marking ink for optical lenses, or resin which may form the binding agent of such marking ink.~~

21. (previously presented) The lens of claim 20, wherein the outermost layer of the temporary protective coating comprises at least one of MgF<sub>2</sub>, LaF<sub>3</sub>, AlF<sub>3</sub>, CeF<sub>3</sub>, MgO, CaO, TiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ZrO<sub>2</sub>, Pr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>, or Al(OH)<sub>3</sub>.

22. (previously presented) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal fluoride is MgF<sub>2</sub>.

23. (withdrawn) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal oxide is MgO.

24. (withdrawn) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal hydroxide is Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>.
25. (previously presented) The lens of claim 20, wherein the outermost layer of the temporary protective coating is made of a metal fluoride.
26. (previously presented) The lens of claim 25, wherein the metal fluoride is MgF<sub>2</sub>.
27. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary protective coating is mineral and has a thickness equal to or lower than 50 nm.
28. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the outermost layer of the temporary protective coating has a surface energy of at least 15 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
29. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary protective coating covers at least 15% of the surface of the lens.
30. (previously presented) The lens of claim 29, wherein the temporary protective coating covers the whole surface of the lens.
31. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary protective coating is a multilayered coating.
32. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary protective coating has been deposited via a vapor phase deposition.
33. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the electrostatic peelable film is a flexible film made of a plastic material containing at least 20% by weight of at least one plasticizer.
34. (previously presented) The lens of claim 33, wherein the plastic material film contains at least 30% by weight of at least one plasticizer.
35. (cancelled)
36. (previously presented) The lens of claim 33, wherein the plastic material flexible film is a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) film.

37. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the electrostatic film has a thickness ranging from 100 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .
38. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary protective coating is on a lens hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating.
39. (previously presented) The lens of claim 38, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a surface energy equal to or lower than 14 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
40. (previously presented) The lens of claim 39, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a surface energy equal to or lower than 12 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
41. (previously presented) The lens of claim 40, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a thickness lower than 10 nm.
42. (previously presented) The lens of claim 41, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a thickness lower than 5 nm.
43. (previously presented) The lens of claim 38, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating is on a lens anti-reflection coating.
44. (withdrawn and currently amended) A method for edging an optical lens, comprising:  
providing an optical lens according to claim 19;  
removing the electrostatic peelable film;  
depositing the optical lens in an edging device comprising a holding pad, such that the holding pad would adhere to the mechanically alterable outer layer;  
edging the optical lens;  
removing the temporary protective coating; and  
recovering an edged optical lens,  
~~wherein the temporary protective layer covers the surface of the lens in such an amount that provides sufficient adhesion of the lens to a holding pad during edging of the lens.~~

45. (previously presented) The lens of claim 19, wherein said optical lens coated with the temporary protective coating does not undergo an offset of more than 2° when subjected to an edging operation.
46. (cancelled)
47. (new) An optical lens comprising:
  - (i) a temporary protective coating at least partially covering a surface of the lens, said protective coating comprising an outermost layer that is mechanically alterable through friction and/or contact and comprises at least one metal fluoride, with the proviso that said outermost layer is not a metal oxide and/or metal hydroxide outermost layer directly in contact with an underlying layer containing magnesium fluoride; and
  - (ii) a peelable film electrostatically adhering to said outermost layer of the temporary protective coating,

wherein the peelable film at least covers the central part of the surface of the lens.